CGB-CC-0201

# Edgewood Baptist Church

ANDY MERRITT

Senior Pastor

JAMES WILSON Associate Pastor, Administration

GARY L. REYNOLDS Associate Pastor, Music

JONATHAN MERRITT
Associate Pastor,
Education

TIM HOPPER
Associate Pastor,
Youth

DAVID B. HOWLE Minister to Senior Adults 3564 FORREST ROAD / COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31907-2599 / TELEPHONE 706-561-7954 / FAX 706-569-6297 / www.edgewoodbaptistchurch.us

December 20, 2011

Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission Attention: Disability Rights Office, Room 3-B431 9300 East Hampton Drive Received & Inspected

JAN -4 2012

FCC Mail Room

Reference: Case Identifier: CGB-CC-0201

# 1. Petition for Exemption from Closed Captioning Requirements

Sunday Morning Worship Service Edgewood Baptist Church 3564 Forrest Road Columbus, Georgia 31907

Phone: 706-561-7954 Facsimile: 706-569-6297

E-mail: jwilson@edgewoodbaptistchurch.us

#### II. Introduction

Our church's television program is produced completely on the premises of Edgewood Baptist Church, Columbus, Georgia. Our church has been in existence since 1949 and believes that it is has an integral mission to the community. The mission statement for our church is "To Know Christ that All May Know Him". Our church exists to glorify God by obeying His commands to examine the Bible, exalt Jesus Christ, equip the believer, and evangelize the lost. We attempt to share Christ with the community by showing the grace, love, and mercy of our Savior in our everyday actions.

Our television program is an unedited version of our Sunday morning worship service. Due to cost constraints, only the sermon portion of the service is actually aired on television. We believe the program helps our church to reach out to those who either cannot or do not physically attend worship services in the community.

Each aired program is 28 minutes and 30 seconds in duration. It airs every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. on WTVM TV, Channel 9 out of Columbus, Georgia. The program that airs is the Sunday Service from the previous week. The program is filmed and produced at the church with no editing as the church does not have the equipment necessary to do this. The television ministry is completely operated by volunteers. The program is limited to the preaching of the sermon which is typically presented by the senior pastor.

For the reasons set forth in the following, Edgewood Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia hereby requests an undue burden exemption from the closed captioning rules for its weekly television program, pursuant to 79.1(f) of the Commission's rules:

### A. Nature and Cost of Closed Captions

Custom Captions, an internet captioning company, adds closed captioning to produced programs. A thirty-minute program such as ours would cost \$450 per week. Subtitles and scrolls of the service would be costly as well due to increased man hours and the potential of losing our volunteers who help with the service because of the increase in hours necessary to complete the program. This would result in the need to pay someone to cover this ministry area and thus incur additional costs.

### B. Impact on the Operation of the Program Provider

The total cost of producing our weekly program is \$44,700. This cost does not include any "in kind" cost that would be associated with the various volunteer man hours necessary for the completion of the program. The costs of adding closed captioning would in effect double what it costs to produce and air our program. This would severely affect our ability to continue in this ministry, possibly even bringing an end to the ministry altogether. Our television program does solicit money on the air and is completely paid for through the church budget.

#### C. Financial Resources of the Program Provider

Edgewood Baptist Church of Columbus, Georgia is a 501c3 tax exempt organization. We operate on a yearly budget provided by the tithes and offerings of our members. To add to the cost of producing our television program would definitely place an undue burden on our budget and steer funds away from other ministries in which our church participates.

#### D. Type of Operations of the Program Provider

Our church is a non-profit organization which ministers in and to the local community. The sermon from our Sunday morning worship service is the only programming that we air via our television program. Our other ministries: operations, activities, and events, are geared toward community support and local and global outreach.

#### III. Conclusion

As shown by this petition and its attachments we believe that a waiver of the closed captioning requirements is warranted in our case because requiring closed captioning would create an undue burden on our church. The costs of captioning would be excessively high and would therefore have a significant impact on our church's operations. Our church's type of operation and financial resources are different in kind and in magnitude from a mainstream programming provider. We, therefore, respectfully request a waiver under 79.1(f) of the Commission's rules.

Respectfully Submitted,

the Elders of Edgewood Baptist Church

genes Wilson

James Wilson

Associate Pastor, Administration

Enclosures: 501c

501c3 Certification

**Closed Captioning Estimate** 

**Financial Statement** 



March 8, 2010

Edgewood Baptist Church 3564 Forest Road Columbus, GA 31907

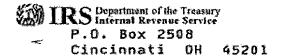
## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: Tax Exempt Status and Classification

This is to advise that Edgewood Baptist Church is a 501(C)(3) organization under the umbrella of the Georgia Baptist Convention (GBC) Family of Churches. (Group Exemption number 1702). We are enclosing a copy of the GBC IRS Determination letter for your use. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us. (Churches are not exempt from paying sales tax in the State of Georgia - Georgia Sales and Use Tax and Regulations Section 560-12-2-.22.)

Sincerely,

Keith T. Hamilton, CFP® Church Financial Services



In reply refer to: 0248464862 Sep. 01, 2009 LTR 4167C E0 58-0566245 000000 00

00013425

BODC: TE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BAPTIST CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF GA GEORGIA BAPTIST CONVENTION 6405 SUGARLOAF PKWY DULUTH GA 30097-4092

02450

Employer Identification Number:
Group Exemption Number: 1702

Person to Contact: Miss Campbell Toll Free Telephone Number: 1-877-829-5500

Dear Taxpayer:

This is in response to your Aug. 21, 2009, request for information about your tax-exempt status.

Our records indicate that you were issued a determination Tetter in December 1964, and that you are currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Based on the information supplied, we recognized the subordinates named on the list you submitted as exempt from Federal income tax under section 50I(c)(3) of the Code.

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106 and 2522 of the Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Michelle M. Sullivar

Michele M. Sullivan, Oper. Mgr. Accounts Management Operations I

b. To provide qualified interpreters or other methods of making audio materials available to hearing-impaired individuals.

# Don't pay too much for closed captioning again!

**Custom Captions** is a premier provider of a full range of post-production captioning services for video production and broadcast media. Our captioning and subtitling services provide an easy and cost-effective way to help you achieve greater exposure and send a positive message about your organization. The chart below compares Custom Captions rates with other captioning providers. You will love our rates!

# **Price Comparison Chart**

	Custom Captions NAD Approved		Competitor #1 NAD Approved		Competitor #2 NAD Approved		Five National Leaders NAD Approved	
Captioning	\$15-20/minute		8/minute		\$10-15/minute		\$30-35/mln	
Transcription	*		\$3/minute		\$3/minute		*	
Set-up Fee	*		\$150		*		*	
Minimum					\$300			
Encoding	*		*		\$75 - 150		*	
Proof VHS	*		*		*		*	
Mailing Proof	*		\$20		\$20		*	
Betacam or DigiBeta Tape	*		\$20-45		\$20~45		*	
Shipping	*		\$20		\$20		*	
Video Length  15 minute 20 minute 30 minute 45 minute 60 minute	Total \$300 400 450 675 900	Actual cost/min \$20 20 15 15	Total \$375 430 555 730 895	Actual cost/min \$25.00 21.50 18.50 16.23	Total \$ 480 495 540-600 830-910 1,015-1,135	Actual cost/min \$32.00 24.75 18.00-20.00 18.22-20.23 16.92-18.92	Total \$450 - 525 500 - 700 900-2,050 1,350-1,575 1,800-2,100	Actual cost/mli \$30-35 30-35 30-35 30-35

<sup>\*</sup>service included without additional charge

# We believe our pricing philosophy supports our goal: We want to be your captioning and subtitling provider.

We provide the highest quality captioning and subtitling at easy-to-understand low rates.

Many captioning services quote enticingly low price-per-minute rates then tack on additional fees. Total costs escalate as charges are added for transcriptions, set-up fees, tape costs, and mailing fees.

We charge a flat rate per minute of video time, which includes all costs. Multiply our rate by the number of minutes in your video to calculate your final cost.

# PRICE LIST

Closed Captioning - Roll-Up

\$10.00/minute - 30+ minutes \$8.00/minute - MORE than 30 minutes

# EDGEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH November 30, 2011

# Reconciliation Statement

Bank Balance 11/30/11 \$341,319024			
Outstanding Checks -\$ 23,450.45			
Outstanding Deposits +\$ 0.00			
Adjusted Bank Balance 11/30/11	\$317,868.79		
Checkbook Balance 11/30/11	<u>\$317,868.79</u>		
Difference	\$ 0.00		
Fund Balances			
Designated Fund Balance 11/30/11 [CPC Conference account has borrowed \$22,136.83 in 2007-2010 and \$554.43 in 2011]	\$280,571.49		

General Fund

Balance 11/30/11 \$ 37,297.30 \*\*

\*\*The last offering of \$13,580.29 received in November was not deposited until December and therefore will be reflected in December.

# Total Balance on Hand 11/30/11

\$317,868.79

General Fund Giving Analysis	
Annual Budget	\$947,993.00
Offering Required To Meet Budget Through November 30 <sup>th</sup> (48 weeks) Offering Received Through November 30 <sup>th</sup> Amount Short of YTD Requirement	\$875,070.24 \$830,374.52 \$ 44,695.72

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**Total Temporary Restricted** 

### **Edgewood Baptist Church** Summary of Restricted Accounts - Portrait Department: Designated Fund

November 2011

Beginning Restricted Restricted Endina Accounts **Balance** Revenue Expenses **Balance** emporary Restricted DESIGNATED \$15,384.27 080900 - Sound Choices Pregnancy Clinic \$114,399.04 \$16,707.43 \$113,075.88 080901 - CPC/NB Repairs \$981.70 \$0.00 \$981.70 \$0.00 080902 - Sound Journeys \$11,528.81 \$0.00 \$45.31 \$11,483.50 \$6,025.00 080903 - Brotherhood \$2,074.16 \$6,050.00 \$2,049,16 080904 - Music Ministry-New Robes \$3,350.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$3,350.00 080905 - Love In Deed \$383.00 \$208.92 \$911.25 (\$319.33)080906 - Insurance Repairs \$0.00 \$550.00 \$0.00 \$550.00 080907 - Children's Church Fundraisers \$801.78 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$801.78 080908 - New Beginnings Agency \$0.00 \$146.98 \$0.00 \$146.98 080909 - Holiday Baskets \$3.00 \$1,322.25 \$0.00 \$1,325,25 080911 - Woman to Woman \$877.84 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$877.84 \$65.00 \$10,102.55 080913 - Lottie Moon/N.A.Missions \$0.00 \$10,167.55 \$1,000.00 080914 - Plant A Seed \$0.00 \$0.00 \$1,000.00 080915 - Children's Center Furnishings \$609.65 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$609.65 080916 - Phase II\Renovation \$80,800.63 \$8,657.18 \$89,457.81 \$0.00 080918 - Romania Team/Trip-Support \$121.24 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$121.24 080919 - Youth Mission Trip \$20.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$20.00 080920 - Scholarships for Children \$1,209.01 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$1,209.01 \$0.00 080921 - CPC Directors Conference (\$22,136.83)\$0.00 (\$22,136,83)\$0.00 \$0.00 080924 - Special Projects \$0.00 \$0.00 080925 - Southern Cross Ministry-Thailand-MN \$125.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$125.00 080927 - FT:[Who's Paying Your Sin Debt] \$2,001.75 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$2,001.75 \$564.00 080928 - Men's Prayer Breakfast \$544.99 \$46.79 \$1.062.20 080931 - Military R & R Center \$6,746,52 \$65.00 \$0.00 \$6,811.52 080933 - Elevator Fund \$37,193.67 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$37,193:67 080934 - Youth Activities [Fundraisers] (\$880.22)\$40.00 \$0.00 (\$840.22)\$0.00 080935 - Prisoners: English A\S Language \$488.00 \$0.00 \$488.00 080936 - Senior Adult Special-Acct \$610.00 \$297.72 \$0.00 \$907.72 \$50.00 \$3,285.38 080937 - Jacob Fund \$11,287.36 \$8,051.98 \$866.52 080940 - SCPC Ultra Sound Fund \$0.00 \$0.00 \$866.52 \$50.00 080943 - Romanian Pastors \$250,00 \$0.00 \$300.00 080947 - CPC Conference Registration (\$554.43)\$0.00 \$0.00 (\$554.43)080948 - Prayer Garden \$6,869.20 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$6.869.20 \$2,139.37 080951 - Sound System (New) \$0.00 \$0.00 \$2,139,37 \$0.00 080954 - Praise Band Fund \$100.00 \$0.00 \$100.00 \$0.00 080958 - J Bowyer Fund \$0.00 \$33.70 \$33.70 080960 - Mexico [Chiapas] Mission (\$647.64)\$580.00 \$0.00 (\$67.64)\$0.00 080961 - Chiapas-Orlando's Surgery \$311.96 \$0.00 \$311.96 \$34,795.70 \$27,046.16 \$272,821.95 \$280,571.49 **Total DESIGNATED** 

\$34,795.70

\$27,046,16

\$280,571,49

\$272,821,95

Page: 1